



Public Notice

May 17, 2013

The N.D. Department of Human Services' Medical Services is seeking public comment on the following changes to the HCBS waiver, Children's Hospice waiver and the additional State Plan amendment. A more detailed explanation of the changes is listed below. This notice is open for comment for the next 30 days.

1. A 1915 (c) waiver amendment to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) to the Children's Hospice Waiver: The purpose of the Children's Hospice Waiver amendment is to:
 - Change services as follows: Case Management monitoring, to ensure case plans are developed and needed services for the child are identified and provided, Skilled Respite, to allow parents time to be with identified child's siblings; such as school functions. This would be done by Home Health Aide through Hospice agencies, Expressive therapy, therapist use art activities to help children and their siblings to express and explore their emotions/ illness, Equipment and Supplies, ability to purchase adaptive devices and supplies needed, related to illness.
2. A 1915 (c) waiver amendment to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) to the Home & Community Based Services (HCBS) Waiver and the Technology Dependent Waiver. The HCBS waiver amendment and the Technology Dependent Waiver amendment proposes to :
 - Update the fee for service rates paid for waiver services to reflect the provider rate increases approved during the Legislative session. The Legislature approved a \$.25 per 15 minute unit rate and \$8.00 daily rate increase for all Qualified Service Providers (QSP). QSPs will also receive a 3% inflationary increase each year of the biennium.

The Technology Dependent waiver amendment will also:

- Modify the cost neutrality demonstration section to account for increased utilization costs for other Medicaid services paid on behalf of waiver recipients.
3. Submission of a State Plan Amendment defining Children's Hospice. The purpose of the amendment is to:
 - Allow children with the possibility of less than one year of life to receive services that are curative and palliative.

If you have any comments, questions or concerns about the proposed changes before June 15, 2013, please contact Karen Tescher at ktescher@nd.gov or by calling 701-328-2324, toll free 800-755-2604, ND Relay TTY 800-366-6888 or by mailing a written response to:

N.D. Department of Human Services
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